

**Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:**

**ABSTRACT** ~~(Figure 1)~~

~~Method~~ A method is provided for cutting and removing underwater pipelines, ~~comprising the following steps:~~ The method comprises ~~a) (a) determining the position of the underwater pipeline to be removed; b) (b) positioning, on the said line, guiding means a guide for positioning cutting means a cutter and means a device for recovering the cut pipe sections, said guiding means the guide being able to be repositioned along said the line and being stably connected to a boat intended to collect the recovered sections; c) (c) guided positioning of the cutting means cutter and guided positioning of the recovery means device for recovering the cut pipe; d) (d) cutting of the pipe section of predetermined length and subsequent removal of said the section by means of said recovery means using the device for recovering the cut pipe; e) (e) transfer of the pipe section recovered by said the recovery means device to said the boat; and f) (f) repositioning of the guiding means guide along the remaining line portion to be removed and repetition of the preceding steps c) (c) to e) (e) until the underwater pipeline has been completely removed; and an. An apparatus for implementing this method is also provided.~~